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**SCHAKOWSKY JOINS EFFORT TO FORCE RELEASE OF BUSH ADMINISTRATION
SECRET REPORT THAT BLAMES
POOR PLANNING FOR POST-
WAR IRAQ FAILURES**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) today joined colleagues in introducing a resolution to force the release of a report to Congress that blames the Bush Administration's poor planning for post war failures in Iraq. The chief sponsor of the resolution, H.Res. 364, is U.S. Representative Robert Wexler (D-FL)

According to the Washington Times, which has obtained a copy of secret report prepared for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, analysts concluded, *"Insufficient U.S. government assets existed to accomplish the mission."*

□ The report is titled "Operation Iraqi Freedom Strategic Lessons Learned."□

"President Bush approved the war plan in August of 2002, months before the first missile was fired on Iraq and while refusing to acknowledge to the American people that war was imminent.□ It is clear now that the Administration did not have an adequate plan to secure and rebuilt Iraq, guarantee the safety of our troops, or secure an international force to ease the burden," Schakowsky said.

The Washington Times, in a September 3, 2003, added that *"the report lays the blame for setbacks in Iraq on a flawed and rushed war-planning process that 'limited the focus' for preparing for post-Saddam Hussein operations,"* and that *".planners were not given enough time to put together the best blueprint for what is called Phase IV - the ongoing reconstruction of Iraq."*

"President Bush should take responsibility for the decisions he made about the war in Iraq and hold those in his cabinet responsible for our failures in Iraq," Schakowsky concluded.□□□

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The resolution, which will be referred to the International Relations Committee, states that *".the President is requested to transmit to the House of Representatives not later than the 14th day beginning after the date of adoption of this resolution the report prepared for the Joint Chiefs of Staff entitled 'Operation Iraqi Freedom Strategic Lessons Learned' and documents in his possession on the reconstruction and security of post-war Iraq."*